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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

HM-645PCT

Applicant(s) : Gerhard Heitze, et al  
Serial No. : NOT YET KNOWN (PCT/EP03/14233)  
Int. Filed : December 15, 2003  
For : SHEARING MACHINE FOR TRANSVERSALLY DIVIDING  
A HEAVY PLATE BY MEANS OF AN ECCENTRIC  
DRIVE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

S I R:

In advance of the first office action, please amend the claims as follows: